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The Head Shed January 29

HISTORIC PHOTOGRAPH: In the past, *History Today* illustrations have included pictures of NSA's first director, LTG Ralph Canine, USA, handing out awards to individuals. None of these photographs has shown much of General Canine's office; the emphasis, as it should be, was on the individual getting an award.

Last year, the Center for Cryptologic History (CCH) discovered a trove of photographs from NSA's predecessor organizations. Among these was a wider view of the DIRNSA's office.



Since General Canine in this photo is a major general, the occasion must have been before November 1952. The general was the last director of the Armed

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Forces Security Agency (AFSA) and transitioned to become the first director of NSA on that date. AFSA's director was at the two-star level, but the regulations that governed NSA called for a three-star director.

Under AFSA --- and NSA until the late 1950s --- the director's office was at the Naval Security Station on Nebraska Avenue in the District of Columbia.

By the way, the CCH believes the desk in the photograph can now be seen in the SIGABA conference room at the National Cryptologic Museum.

508 caption: A large room with a wooden desk on the left, easy chairs in a semi-circle, and a large wall map of the world. General Canine and an Army captain are standing at attention in front of the map, while a third officer reads a citation for an award about to be given.

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